

Philippine Sanitation Alliance

1st Quarterly Report

October to December 2007

Prepared by AECOM International Development for USAID/Philippines under Cooperative Agreement No. 492-A-00-07-00023-00

I. Executive Summary

The highlight of the quarter was the launching event of the Philippine Sanitation Alliance (PSA) Project in October. This was followed by introductory meetings with local governments and partners and the signing of memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with the PSA cities and private sector, national government and nongovernmental organization (NGO) partners.

The event and subsequent meetings generated a lot of attention from sector practitioners and interest from cities and private enterprises. This prompted the AECOM team to explore various ideas of how to deal with future requests outside of the list of PSA partners. Two ideas were pursued: implementing a service providers' training on low-cost treatment systems and proposing that the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) hire a full-time staff person to provide technical assistance to its members on developing sanitation projects. LCP management has endorsed the idea, and now will seek funding for the position with assistance from the PSA.

The FY2008 work plan for PSA was submitted to and approved by USAID following discussion and revisions. The Monitoring and Evaluation plan was also submitted for review.

II. Performance Objectives and Expected Outputs

During the quarter, the project was officially launched, followed by one-on-one meetings with Alliance partners to agree upon on indicative activities to be undertaken during the three-year project. The output of these meetings were seven signed MOUs. The AECOM team worked closely with staff and mayors of Sta. Rosa and Zamboanga Cities to develop PSA technical working groups and plan for stakeholder workshops in Quarter 2.

The PSA developed a training program for service providers that will be able to respond to requests for assistance in designing sanitation and wastewater treatment facilities. Two of the eight training sessions were conducted during the quarter.

Indicator Reporting

Indicator	1 st Qtr	FY08 Target
1. Number of people in target areas with access to improved sanitation facilities as a result of USG assistance (disaggregated by gender)	0	10,000
2. Number of feasibility and special studies/plans prepared	0	4
3. Amount of non-USAID financing mobilized for sanitation projects and facilities	\$2995	\$150,000
4. Number of people trained in environmental law, enforcement, public participation, and cleaner production policies, strategies, skills and techniques, disaggregated by gender	28 (8 women, 20 men)	200
5. Number of sanitation and hygiene promotion events conducted (WASH campaign)	0	1
6. Number of pollution and urban environment policies, laws, agreements or regulations implemented	0	2
7. Number of improved water resource management policies, laws, agreements or regulations implemented	0	1

III. Summary of Major Accomplishments

A. The Philippine Sanitation Alliance Launched with Miss Earth Beauty Queens

On October 20, 2007 Miss Earth beauty queens from the Philippines, United States, and Virgin Islands graced the kick-off event for the PSA. The PSA partners signed MOUs with PADCO/AECOM during the kick-off event that was held at Max's Restaurant in Quezon City. The Alliance partners include Max's Restaurant, Coca-Cola, Gawad Kalinga, and associations representing the real estate, hotel, restaurant and hospital industries. The three Miss Earth contestants were in Manila to participate in the Miss Earth International competition on November 11, 2007. They each delivered inspirational remarks about the importance of proper sanitation and wastewater treatment to protect the Earth's resources, and our shared global responsibility for Mother Earth and its inhabitants.

USAID was represented at the MOU signing by the Acting Chief, USAID Office of the Environment Aurelia Micko; the Coca-Cola Export Corporation by Vice President, Public Affairs and Communication Jose Bayani Baylon; the Chamber of Real Estate and Builders' Associations (CREBA) by Executive Vice-President Techie Bautista; Gawad Kalinga by Program Head Raul Dizon; and the League of Cities of the Philippines by President Benjamin Abalos (Mayor of Mandaluyong City). Zamboanga City Mayor Celso Lobregat also attended the signing.

B. PSA Launched in Zamboanga City with Big Stakeholder Meeting

Last November 13, Zamboanga City Mayor Celso Lobregat led the PSA kickoff activity with a joint Executive Committee and Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting and a big stakeholder forum. The meeting was attended by Execom and TWG members and most of the city

department heads and staff, while the stakeholder forum in the afternoon was attended by city council members, water district officials, businessmen, private desludgers, hospital and restaurant owners, national government and university representatives, and representatives of PSA partners Coke and Gawad Kalinga. Senior Project Coordinator Jay Tecson, assisted by PSA Visayas and Mindanao Coordinator Joy Martinez-Onozawa, presented the PSA program and draft work plan to a largely enthusiastic audience. Zamboanga City signed the PSA MOU during the formal ceremonies held last October 20 in Quezon City.

TWG Coordinator Engr. Rey Gonzales accompanied the PSA team during the site visit of the City's 3 public markets, 2 private markets, soon-to-be-finished city slaughterhouse, port area, cannery area, resettlement area, a Badjao houses-on-stilts project site, a GK site, major water tributaries, and city-owned public buildings. Zamboanga City is one of the oldest cities in the country and the most Hispanicized. It is also one of the largest cities in the world in terms of area, with over 1,480 km², including its 28 surrounding islands. The city is host to a population of 700,078 people, the 6th most populous in the country.

C. Sta. Rosa and Meycauayan Sign MOUs

Last October 26, Sta. Rosa City and Meycauayan City formally signed MOUs with PADCO/AECOM, officially launching the project in their respective cities. The visits to Sta. Rosa and Meycauayan were highlighted by meetings with the mayors and some city officials. The PSA team also conducted a brief site visit around the respective cities to explore potential pilot project areas.

Following the MOU signing on November 3, the Santa Rosa City Mayor issued Executive Order No. 027 creating the Executive Committee and Technical Working Group for the Philippine Sanitation Alliance project. The Executive Committee includes the mayor, chair of the Sangguniang Panglungsud (SP) Environment Committee, chair of the SP Health and Sanitation Committee, City ENRO, City Engineer, Plant Manager of Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines, Chairman of the Sta. Rosa Business Club, President of St. James Hospital, and Project Director of Gawad Kalinga, Sta. Rosa Chapter. The Technical Working Group includes staff from the city government, Coca-Cola Bottlers and the local Rotary Club.

D. PSA Signs MOU with CREBA

During its Annual General Membership Meeting and Election of Directors for 2008, the Chamber of Real Estate and Builders' Associations, Inc. (CREBA) signed an MOU with PADCO/AECOM on November 29, 2007. The partnership with the PSA was featured in the Oct.-Nov. 2007 CREBA Bulletin, which was handed out during the meeting. The PSA was introduced during the meeting by Executive Vice President Techie Bautista, who stressed the importance of wastewater treatment systems in housing developments and the benefits of recycling and reusing the treated water. PSA Project Manager Lisa Kircher Lumbao made a brief presentation about the Alliance and how it can assist CREBA members in piloting affordable wastewater treatment solutions. Ms. Lumbao and CREBA National President Pedro Tario then signed the MOU. The two groups will organize a technical workshop for the housing sector in 2008.

E. PSA Holds First Session of Private Service Providers Training

The kickoff session of the short training course for service providers on appropriate wastewater treatment systems and approaches was held at the Maunsell corporate office in Makati City last

December 11. The objectives of the eight-session training program are to provide selected engineering service providers with training on how to design sustainable, low-cost, low-maintenance wastewater treatment systems. PSA will refer interested cities and private sector groups to these service providers when its own technical staff cannot respond to their requests for assistance. The service providers are expected to provide reliable, appropriate technical design work required by potential clients, and give them more options to choose from in terms of technical approach and corresponding budget. This test run will also provide feedback for the PSA to improve the training materials and develop a well-structured set of materials that can be shared with partners for replication.

More than 25 participants attended the first training session, including representatives of the following private companies and NGOs: Maunsell Philippines, BNS-BORDA, Bongar Engineering, Chem Earth and University of the Philippines. Topics covered during the first session included an overview of the wastewater conditions in the Philippines and the PSA project, presentations on the local government code and the government procurement reform act, overview of wastewater management, and wastewater treatment technologies and approaches. Ms. Joy Jochico and Mr. Jose Dulce of USAID opened the event.

F. Septage Management Presented To Two Conferences

Last November 21, USAID Senior Project Coordinator Jay Tecson presented septage management in San Fernando La Union and Baguio City. Tecson presented the topic “Dumaguete Ordinance on Septage Management” to over 150 participants during the National Executive Board Meeting and Conference Workshop of the Philippine League of Secretaries to the Sanggunian, Inc. (PLEASES) in San Fernando, La Union. The presentation was made on behalf of the City of Dumaguete, which is a pilot city of the USAID Philippine Sanitation Alliance Project. The forum had the theme “Strengthening Legislative Commitment to Environmental Sanitation.” The event was attended by legislative secretaries, municipal and city councilors, and municipal and city vice-mayors from different parts of the country.

In Baguio City, Tecson presented the topic “Septage Management Program for Local Governments” to over 130 participants during the SWAPPCON 2007 Conference with the theme “Solid Waste, Health, and Sanitation for a Livable Community”. The conference was organized by the Solid Waste Management Association of the Philippines in cooperation with the National Solid Waste Management Commission and the Department of Health. The event was attended by municipal and city environment officers, pollution control officers, NGOs, media, and solid waste management practitioners.

IV. Management and Finance

After many discussions and delays, Davao City declined the invitation to be part of the PSA project. The AECOM team then began gathering information on other potential partner cities in Mindanao and will make a recommendation to USAID in January. However, discussions are being held with the Davao water district on septage management.

Due to the Christmas holidays there were some delays in contacting and meeting with partners, but the team expects to have all remaining partners on board during the next quarter. Expenditures were low, as was expected during the start up period.

AECOM has received counterpart contributions from Alliance partners totaling \$2,995 during the quarter, which are funds contributed by the partners in kind or in cash to support PSA project implementation. The total was broken down as follows: Participating LGUs – \$2466, Participating Private Sector Organizations – \$529. See the attached Excel files for details.

V. Performance Objectives for Next Quarter

During the next quarter, AECOM will focus on getting the remaining MOUs signed with PSA partners, including the fourth PSA city coming from Mindanao.

AECOM will also complete the service providers training and plan for the introduction of these support groups to Alliance partners. AECOM will continue the dialogue and forward planning with LCP to develop the mechanism for LCP assistance in extending and replicating the objectives of PSA in other cities.

Stakeholders' consultation and planning workshops will be completed next quarter for all four cities, which should produce for each partner city a short-to-long term action plan that will provide the development blueprint for wastewater management at the local level.

AECOM will continue to liaise and meet with private sector groups to identify the most practicable process to undertake with respect to their members' priorities and concerns. AECOM will also support the six former LINAW cities in developing and completing their planned pilot projects, with a focus on implementation of septage management programs.

AECOM will work in collaboration with sector partners including the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Health, members of the Philippine Ecological Sanitation Network, and other donor institutions in planning and implementing the Philippine launch of the International Year of Sanitation in February.